

Appl. No.: 10/759,630
Reply to Final Office Action of: August 11, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the present application:

Claims Listing

Claims 1-10 (canceled)

11. **(currently amended)** A continuous ribbon configured to be severed to form a plurality of connectors, the ribbon comprising two continuous part plates which are mutually connected by an integral flexible connecting piece extending continuously along a leading edge of the ~~of the~~ continuous part plates wherein at least one of the part plates has contact openings passing through the part plate proximate the leading edge.

Claims 12-16 (canceled)

17. **(previously presented)** The continuous ribbon according to claim 11, wherein the two continuous part plates each comprise a plurality of integral part plates; the integral part plates being severable to form a pre-product for the manufacture of individual connectors.

18. **(previously presented)** The continuous ribbon cable according to claim 17, wherein the integral part plates are severable to form the pre-product of varying width.

19. **(currently amended)** The continuous ribbon of claim 11, wherein both part plates have contact openings passing therethrough proximate the leading edge which are opposed to one another when the pre-product is in the assembled state.

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20. **(previously presented)** The continuous ribbon according to claims 11, wherein the part plates are foldable onto each other to form the pre-product with a receiving space therebetween.

21. **(previously presented)** The continuous ribbon according to claim 20, wherein one part plate has a groove or a web on an external surface thereof which faces away from the receiving space, the groove or web being arranged parallel to an insertion direction.

22. **(previously presented)** The continuous ribbon according to claim 21, wherein the groove or web is disposed on the external surface such that the continuous ribbon can only be inserted in the correct position of a mating connector having a greater width than the continuous ribbon.

23. **(previously presented)** The continuous ribbon according to claim 11, wherein at least one of the part plates has spacers on an internal face thereof which define a gap between the two part plates.

24. **(previously presented)** The continuous ribbon according to claim 11, wherein the continuous ribbon is disposed on a reel.